PSCI 3105 B: IMPERIALISM

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor Jeff Sahadeo e-mail: jeff.sahadeo@carleton.ca
Office: 3314 River Building Phone: 520-2600 (x2996)
Office Hours: TBA

Objectives
This course explores encounters between imperial states of Europe and North America (along
with a brief discussion of Japan) and the “periphery” of Asia, Africa, and Latin America from the
nineteenth century to the present. How did modern empires compete, interact and evolve? What
were the effects on colonized lands and peoples? Has the United States created a new, global
empire? How does its expansionist venture compare to past enterprises? Imperialism has filled
the coffers of western states, but that wealth has hardly been spread equally. Expansion has
wrought violence and destruction, but delivered opportunities to subject peoples even if the
“civilizing mission” has proven but a myth. Strategies of accommodation and resistance
transformed empires in unforeseen ways.

Readings
Required readings (below) will be available on CU Learn.

Requirements
*Attendance/ participation (class discussion, debate, informal blog entries): 20%
**Critical Analysis Papers (~400-500 words) (2x5%) 10%
**Blog reactions (~400-500 words) (2x5%) 10%
***Final Paper (~3000 words/ 10pp) (due April 3) 25%
Take Home Midterm (distributed Feb. 27, due Mar 1 on CU Learn) 15%
Final exam (in regular exam period): 20%

*Students will be expected to participate regularly, drawing on material from assigned readings.
Participation in discussion (which may include quizzes) and a debate/role play will be 20% of the
grade. Attendance is mandatory: penalties for not attending (without medical documentation)
are: 1 absence= 15% deduction from participation grade; 2 absences= 30% deduction; 3
absences= 50% deduction; 4 absences= 100% deduction from participation grade. Each late
arrival will cost 25% of that day’s attendance/ participation grade for every 15 minutes late.
Ringing cellphones, note passing, surreptitious texting, using electronic devices for anything
besides coursework and other disruptions will also result in a loss of the participation mark on the
same scale as absences.

Participation grades will be determined based on (a) attendance and attention level as well as (b)
active participation that: (i) displays knowledge of the subject; (ii) contributes to the flow of
conversation; (iii) shows knowledge of the readings; (iv) offers critical analysis of the readings
and appropriate themes. Those who are more comfortable writing than speaking may also
contribute informal impressions of the readings to CULearn by 9am the day of class.

**The critical analysis papers and blog reactions will be based on the weekly readings. The
papers will discuss, critically and analytically, selected themes of the readings, and will be
handed in at the beginning of that week’s class. The blog reactions will also provide critical
impressions of the themes and readings, but will not need to be structured as “traditional” papers. Further details will be provided in class and posted on CU Learn. Blog reactions will be due on the day of class (Monday) by 9am.

You may choose the weeks to submit your papers/ reactions, as long as the first is handed in by Jan. 23, the second by Feb 13, the third by Mar 6, and the fourth by Mar. 27.

***The final paper will be an original piece of research using at least eight sources. Topics can be relatively open, so long as they relate to the course material, but must be approved by the professor or teaching assistant. Papers will be graded on effectiveness of writing as well as analysis. Further details will be posted on CULearn.

Late papers will be penalized one letter grade (i.e. A- to B+) per day late. No work will be accepted after the end of classes.

Assignments sent electronically (except blog reactions and midterm) will not be accepted without prior consent of the instructor. It is not acceptable to hand in the same assignment for two or more courses. To obtain credit in a course, students must meet ALL the course requirements for attendance, term work, and examinations.

Note: No laptops/electronics will be allowed during the discussion sections of the class, and in lectures are to be used only for activities directly related to the course (no facebook, instagram, email, surfing etc.)

Schedule  (note- readings subject to changes)

Jan 9: Introduction
1. Opening Discussion: What is Imperialism?
2. Introductory Lecture: Empire, Imperialism, and Colonialism, Past and Present

Background/ Discussion Readings
Ania Loomba, Colonialism/ Postcolonialism, 1-12
Stephen Howe, Empire: A Very Short Introduction, 1-19

Jan 16: Evolution
1. Foundations of Modern Imperialism and Early Expansion
2. India and the 1857 Rebellion

Background Readings (for January 16 and 23)
Timothy H. Parsons, The British Imperial Century, 1815-1914, 9-51

Discussion Readings
Edward Said, Orientalism (1978), 1-9
Julian Go, Patterns of Empire: The British and American Empires, 1688 to the Present (2011), 108-117, 128-131
Bernard Cohn, “Cloth, Clothes, and Colonialism: India in the Nineteenth Century” Imperialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India (1996), 106-7, 121-9
Jan 23: Why Did It Seem So Easy? The Initial Conquest of Africa
1. Science and Technology
2. Civilizing Mission/ White Man’s Burden/ Racism
3. Methods of Rule
4. Memories of Empire

Discussion Readings
Daniel R. Headrick, *Power over Peoples: Technology, the Environment and Western Imperialism, 1400 to the Present* (2010), 226-34, 212-17, 257-75
Adrian Hastings, “Christianity, Civilization, and Commerce” *European Imperialism*…74-81
Ania Loomba, *Colonialism/ Postcolonialism*, 104-123
https://yougov.co.uk/news/2014/07/26/britain-proud-its-empire/

Jan 30: Africa Partitioned
1. Causes
2. Winners and Losers (Clips from documentary: *Africa: A Voyage of Discovery*)
3. Variations of Imperial Rule
4. Consequences

Background Readings

Discussion Readings
Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold’s Ghost*, 6-18, 115-77
“Why is Cecil Rhodes such a Controversial Figure” http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-32131829 and “Rhodes Must Not Fall” https://yougov.co.uk/news/2016/01/18/rhodes-must-not-fall/

Feb 6: Critics, War and the Roots of Dependency
1. Hobson, Lenin, and the early critics of Imperialism
2. World War I and the Postwar Settlements
3. The Colonial Encounter and the Growth of Resistance
4. Enshrining Dependency

Background Readings

Discussion Readings
a) Economic Understandings of Imperialism
J.A Hobson, “Imperialism” *European Imperialism, 1830-1930*, 14-20
V.I. Lenin, “Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism” *European Imperialism*…36-42

c) Imperialism, “Collaboration” and Resistance


George Orwell, *Burmese Days* (1934), 36-45

M.K. Gandhi, “The Disease of Civilization” *European Imperialism*, 22-8

**Feb 13: Postcolonialism: Europe’s Formal Withdrawal**
1. Roots of Decolonization
2. Palestine and the Middle East
3. India
4. Africa

**Background Readings**

**Discussion Readings**
Daniel Headrick, *Power over Peoples*, 334-340

**Feb 20: No Class: Reading Week**

**Feb 27: Russia and Asia**
1. The Tsarist Empire and Asian Expansion
2. The Reach of the Russo-Japanese War
3. The Soviet Union: an Empire?

**Discussion Readings**

**March 6: The United States, Canada and Empire**
1. Origins of the American Empire
2. The Cold War
3. The “Global Policeman”

**Discussion Readings:**
- **The American Empire**
b. Canada: An Imperialist Country?
J.Z. Garrod and Laura McDonald, “Rethinking ‘Canadian Mining Imperialism’ in Latin America”
In Mining in Latin America: Critical Approaches to the New Extraction ed. Kalowatie Deonandan (2016)

March 13: Film and Discussion- TBA

March 20: Debate/ Role Play (Topic To Be Announced)

March 27: 9/11, Oil, the Middle East (Afghanistan) and Iraq
1. The Road to 9/11
2. Iraq and the Islamic State
3. Imperialism, Postcolonialism and anti-imperialism in 2016

Discussion Readings
a. A Clash of Civilizations?
Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” Foreign Affairs, 72 (Summer 1993), 22-39

b. After 9/11
Michael Mandelbaum, “David’s Friend Goliath” Foreign Policy 2006, no. 152: 50-56
Current media articles TBA

April 3: Imperialism and Racism Today
1. Keeping Europe (and North America) White
2. The European Right, Racism and Refugees
3. Putin’s Russia

Discussion Readings
Thomas Piketty, “Clamping Down on Law and Order will not be Enough” Le Monde 22-3 November 2015 (translated link below)
https://origins.osu.edu/article/ukrainian-crisis-russias-long-shadow
Current Media Articles TBA

Academic Accommodations
The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to
send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a
stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

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Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit [https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/) or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.